## A Message to Survivors

Since our beginnings, Safe Alliance has always prioritized the health and safety of our clients. Following the U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade, we understand that many abuse victims and survivors are facing increased anxiety and fears regarding your personal health and safety.

Frequently we encounter victims and survivors with abusive partners who use reproductive coercion to entrap and maintain power and control over victims, sometimes resulting in lifelong impacts. These coercive actions might include denying access or tampering with birth control, forcing pregnancy, or forcing a victim to carry a pregnancy to term. Many victims and survivors become trapped in a legal bond with a perpetrator when forced to reproduce. They and their children might also experience significant and even life threatening physical, mental and economic abuse because of this legal bond.

If this is happening to you, please know that you are not alone. Safe Alliance offers free, nonjudgmental, confidential and accessible services to help you escape abuse and create a new life for yourself and your children. These services might include safety planning, legal support, shelter, trauma counseling, basic needs support and referrals to organizations that provide the healthcare services you choose.

We also recognize that reproductive coercion most negatively impacts marginalized communities that already face higher risks of violence and poor health outcomes related to pregnancy. We want you to know that Safe Alliance provides support through an equity lens – staff are highly trained to understand unique challenges faced by diverse populations and work with community partners to help clients access the most culturally supportive services.

We believe that survivors of domestic and sexual violence of all races and ethnicities, no matter where they live or how much money they make, deserve a range of options to make the decisions that are best for themselves and their children.

We also believe that one of the most important ways to prevent domestic and sexual abuse is through a supportive community. At Safe Alliance we stand with all domestic violence and sexual assault victims and survivors as you journey toward hope and healing. If you need help, please reach out to us 24/7 on our Greater Charlotte Hope Line at 980-771-HOPE (4673).